

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 06945 031802Z  
ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 L-03 /053 W  
-----106182 031848Z /40

P 031755Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6263

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FOR AA/NE WHEELER FROM BROWN

E.O. 11652: N/A  
SUBJECT: DIVERSIONARY UTILIZATION ROAD EQUIPMENT

REFERENCE: STATE 54546

1. FULLY CONCUR IN CONCERN EXPRESSED IN REFTEL.
2. EVEN BEFORE AG REPORT CITED REFTEL, USAID HAD INITIATED END-USE AUDIT WHICH SHOWED THAT CERTAIN EQUIPMENT WAS BEING USED FOR ROAD MAINTENANCE IN LOCATIONS OUTSIDE OF CANAL ZONE. ON JANUARY 27 WE COMMUNICATED TO MINISTRY HOUSING REPRESENTATIVE OUR CONCERN THAT THIS USAGE NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH GRANT TERMS AND THE NEED FOR MINISTRY TO REMIND CONTRACTORS OF PROPER USAGE. WE HAVE A RESPONSE FROM MINISTRY DATED FEBRUARY 28 FULLY AGREEING WITH OUR POSITION AND STATING THAT MINISTRY IS REITERATING TO CONTRACTORS THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH EQUIPMENT IS TO BE USED.
3. WITH RESPECT TO SPECIFIC CONCERN EXPRESSED REFTEL, IMMEDIATELY UPON BEING INFORMED BY AG/CAIRO OF SITUATION MATTER WAS BROUGHT URGENTLY TO ATTENTION GAMAL EL NAZER BY USAID DIRECTOR AND SHORTLY THEREAFTER TO ATTENTION OF MINISTER ECONOMY EL SAYEH BY AMBASSADOR. KAISSOUNI ALSO INFORMED OF MATTER BY EL NAZER.

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4. ALL THREE OF THESE OFFICIALS FULLY CONCURRED IN NEED FOR RAPID ACTION ON RESTORING EQUIPMENT INVOLVED TO APPROPRIATE UTILIZATION. HOWEVER, SPECIFIC MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR MATTER IS MINISTER HOUSING AND RECONSTRUCTION WHO WAS NOT IN CAIRO UNTIL A DAY OR TWO AGO.

5. I MET WITH MINISTER HOUSING ON MARCH 2 AGAIN TO REITERATE OUR URGENT CONCERN ON THE MATTER. MINISTER PROMISED HE WOULD INSTRUCT HEADS OF CONTRACTOR AGENCIES TO TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO RESTORE EQUIPMENT TO ORIGINALLY INTENDED PURPOSES. THIS HAS BEEN REPORTED TO AG/CAIRO. WE INTEND FOLLOW UP IN NEXT DAY OR TWO TO ASSURE THAT INSTRUCTIONS ARE ACTUALLY PASSED TO CONTRACTORS AND THAT CONTRACTORS TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION.

6. ONCE CORRECTIVE ACTION IS TAKEN ON THIS SPECIFIC ISSUE, AMBASSADOR AND I ARE AGREED WE NEED CORRESPOND FURTHER WITH DEPUTY PM KAISOUNI TO REMIND HIM OF GRAVITY OF THIS KIND OF SITUATION AND ABSOLUTE NEED FOR GOE TO ASSURE AVOIDANCE OF SIMILAR PROBLEMS.

7. AT THIS STAGE AMBASSADOR AND I FEEL REASONABLY CONFIDENT THAT REPORTED MISUSE OF EQUIPMENT WAS NOT INTENTIONAL ACTION BY GOE BUT RATHER RESULTED FROM INADEQUATE INSTRUCTIONS FROM GOE TO CONTRACTORS ON EQUIPMENT USE. WE FEEL CONFIDENT THAT MINISTERS CONCERNED SHARE FULLY WITH US AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE COMPLICATIONS WHICH COULD RESULT FROM THIS SITUATION OR ANY SIMILAR SITUATION IN FUTURE. DECONTROL FOLLOWING JUNE 1979.  
EILTS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EQUIPMENT, HIGHWAYS  
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**Draft Date:** 03 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014